

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

GEORGES PRIGENT

FR 010024

Serial No.

Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Ex.

Title: APPARATUS COMPRISING A DISPLAY UNIT AND Display UNIT  
SUITABLE FOR SUCH AN APPARATUS

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 4-8 and 10 as follows:

1 4. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized  
2 in that the display unit comprises a light box situated underneath.

1 5. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized  
2 in that the display unit comprises a reflector situated underneath  
3 for reflecting the light from a light source situated above it.

1 6. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, for which the  
2 display unit is of the liquid crystal display type implying two  
3 crossed polarizers, characterized in that one of the polarizers is  
4 placed at the back of the plate of optical fibers.

1 7. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized  
2 in that the diameter of the fibers which are in contact with the

3 display unit is smaller than the dimensions of the pixels which the  
4 display unit can display.

1 8. (Amended) A display unit suitable for an apparatus as claimed  
2 in claim 1, comprising inter alia an assembly of a fiber optic  
3 plate placed on the side of the front face facing the user and a  
4 display unit comprising a multiplicity of pixels, characterized in  
5 that the fibers of the plate are deformed so as to be adapted to  
6 various configurations.

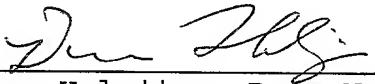
1 10. (Amended) A display unit as claimed in claim 8, characterized  
2 in that the diameter of the fibers in contact with the display unit  
3 is smaller than the dimensions of the pixels which the display unit  
4 can display.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment to claims 4-8 and 10 were made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependent form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicant furthermore reserves the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

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December 10, 2001

## Appendix A

### Version with Markings

#### to Show Changes Made to the Claims

The following are marked up versions of amended claims 4-8 and

10:

1 4. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in ~~one of the claims 1-to~~  
2 3, characterized in that the display unit comprises a light box  
3 situated underneath.

1 5. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in ~~one of the claims 1-to~~  
2 3, characterized in that the display unit comprises a reflector  
3 situated underneath for reflecting the light from a light source  
4 situated above it.

1 6. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in ~~one of the claims 1-to~~  
2 5, for which the display unit is of the liquid crystal display type  
3 implying two crossed polarizers, characterized in that one of the  
4 polarizers is placed at the back of the plate of optical fibers.

1 7. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in ~~one of the claims 1-to~~  
2 5, characterized in that the diameter of the fibers which are in  
3 contact with the display unit is smaller than the dimensions of the  
4 pixels which the display unit can display.

1 8. (Amended) A display unit suitable for an apparatus as claimed  
2 in ~~one of the claims 1-to 7~~, comprising inter alia an assembly of a  
3 fiber optic plate placed on the side of the front face facing the  
4 user and a display unit comprising a multiplicity of pixels,  
5 characterized in that the fibers of the plate are deformed so as to  
6 be adapted to various configurations.

1 10. (Amended) A display unit as claimed in ~~one of the claims 8 to~~  
2 9, characterized in that the diameter of the fibers in contact with  
3 the display unit is smaller than the dimensions of the pixels which  
4 the display unit can display.